MINUTES

OF THE

31st ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

CAPE FEAR

Free-Will Baptist Conference,

HELD WITH THE CHURCH AT

PLEASANT GROVE, HARNETT CO., N. C.,

November 5th, 6th, and 7th, 1885.

RALEIGH, N. C.:
EDWARDS, BROUGHTON & CO., POWER PRINTERS AND BINDERS.
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OFFICERS.

MODERATOR—R. A. JOHNSON.
TREASURER—H. W. JERNIGAN.
SECRETARY—A. W. GREGORY, Barclaysville, Harnett County, N. C.

COMMITTEES.

On Obituaries—J. W. Jernigan, B. A. Hodges and N. H. Lucas.

On Temperance—R. A. Johnson, W. A. Colville and John Moore.

On Ministerial Character—N. H. Lucas, Ransom West, J. B. Jernigan, J. P. Canaday and J. J. Roberts.

Sunday School Board—S. D. Jackson, J. H. Pope, J. E. Jolly and N. H. Lucas.

Missionary Board—Jesse Wilson, B. A. Hodges, J. P. Ogburn, J. D. Stevens and J. H. Pope.

ORDAINED MINISTERS.

ALLEN FOWLER	Averasboro, N. C.
WILLIAM BYRD	Averasboro, N. C.
R. A. JOHNSON	Ezra, N. C.
S. B. THAIN	Glenmore, N. C.
ROBERT STRICKLAND	Rhodesville, N. C.
JOHN MOORE	Beasley Hill, N. C.
JOSEPH SALMON	Bass, N. C.
J. WILSON LUCAS	Tennessee.
J. F. HILL	Goldsboro, N. C.
LUNDEE LEE	Giles' Mills, N. C.
J. E. SMITH	Myatt's Mills, N. C.

LICENTIATES.

W. R. GLOVER	Little River Acad., N. C.
JNO. W. LUCAS	Averasboro, N. C.
THOS. J. GREGORY	Barclaysville, N. C.

ORDAINING COUNCIL.

Elders JOHN MOORE and WILLIAM BYRD.

PROCEEDINGS.

FIRST DAY.

PLEASANT GROVE CHURCH, HARNETT CO., N. C.,
Thursday, November 5th, 1885.

The congregation assembles, and services are opened in the church by Elder Wm. Byrd at 12 o'clock M.

Elder Byrd preaches the introductory sermon from St. John xiii: 34, 35: "A new commandment I give unto you, That ye love one another; as I have loved you, that ye also love one another. By this shall all *men* know that ye are my disciples, if ye have love one to another."

After a short intermission, the officers and delegates re-assemble.

Prayer by Elder John Moore.

Conference being duly opened, the names of members present are enrolled as follows:

MINISTERS.

Allen Fowler, Wm. Byrd, R. A. Johnson, Robert Strickland, John Moore, Joseph Salmon, J. F. Hill, Lundee Lee and J. E. Smith.

DELEGATES.

Prospect—W. A. Colville and Elbridge Johnson.
Bethsaida—B. A. Hodges, G. J. Hodges and C. Pleasant.
Pleasant Grove—W. B. Norris, A. S. Lucas and R. Lucas.
Long Branch—I. W. Taylor.
Colyer's Chapel—H. Lucas and J. E. Lucas.
Shady Grove—Jesse Wilson and Wiley West.
Stony Run—J. J. Wade and W. J. Jernigan.
New Hope—W. R. Stanly and M. F. Blackman.
Johnston Union—J. S. Corbit, P. P. Godwin and J. S. Ellis.
St. Mary's Grove—C. B. Jones, J. W. Pollard and W. J. Barbour.
Johnson's Chapel—J. D. Stevens, J. Barber and T. Wheeler.
Union Springs—J. N. Gregory and Thos. G. Hayes.

Mt. Pleasant—Joseph P. Ogburn.
New Prospect—(By Letter).
Hood Swamp—J. J. Roberts and Allen Smith.
Friendship—(By Letter).
New Chapel—Devereaux Crocker.

Elder R. A. Johnson, the Moderator, now calls to his assistance Elder J. F. Hill.

The Secretary calls J. W. Lucas to his assistance.

The name of Rev. Lynn Adams, Missionary Baptist, is enrolled visiting minister.

The Moderator appoints a committee on religious exercise, consisting of the pastor and delegates of Pleasant Grove church.

The committee on religious exercise report to preach to-morrow at the stand:

Elder J. E. Smith at 11 o'clock A. M., followed by Elder Robert Strickland.

On motion, the committee on ministerial character is granted leave of absence for the evening to prepare their report.

On motion, Conference adjourns to meet to-morrow at 9:30 A. M.

Devotional exercise is conducted by Elder J. F. Hill.

SECOND DAY.

FRIDAY, November 6th, 1885.

Conference opens at 9:30 a. m., with devotional exercise conducted by Elder R. A. Johnson.

Roll is called and members present answer to their names, there being 22 absentees.

There not being a quorum present, the Moderator gives 10 minutes intermission; after which the Conference comes together, the roll is called again, and a quorum being found, Conference proceeds to business.

Members absent are yet sixteen.

Minutes of yesterday are read and approved. The names of absentees are read, and fines of 10 cents are collected from each of the twenty-two.

The names of J. P. Stephenson, delegate from Union Springs, Josiah Jackson, delegate from Colyer's Chapel, and

J. H. Pope, delegate from Long Branch, are enrolled as members of this Conference.

It now being 11 o'clock, the congregation and those assigned to the stand retire for preaching.

Reports from the churches are received, and church letters are read.

On motion by Bro. J. G. Johnson, no member of this body shall be allowed to speak more than twice, nor longer than five minutes, on any one subject.

The Moderator appoints a Finance Committee, consisting of Bros. J. J. Wade, B. A. Hodges and Jesse Wilson.

On motion, the order of business for 1884 is adopted for 1885.

On motion, Elder Wm. Byrd, by his request, is relieved from serving as Committee on Temperance.

On motion, Elder Byrd, Committee on Obituaries, is also excused.

On motion, Bro. J. G. Johnson, by his request, is relieved from serving as Committee on Obituaries.

On motion, Elder R. A. Johnson, by his request, is relieved from serving as Committee on Obituaries.

On motion by Elder Salmon, that this body elect committees to fill the vacancies caused by Elders Byrd, Johnson and Bro. J. G. Johnson.

Bros. J. W. Jernigan, B. A. Hodges and N. H. Lucas are elected Committee on Obituaries.

Bro. W. A. Colville is elected Committee on Temperance.

Bro. J. G. Johnson is excused from serving as Committee on Ministerial Character of this Conference, and Bro. J. J. Roberts is elected to fill the vacancy.

Report of the Committee on Ministerial Character is before the Conference.

On motion, the name of Bro. J. G. Johnson is taken off the report of the committee.

On motion, the report on Ministerial Character is adopted. (See reports.)

After an intermission of 35 minutes for dinner, the Conference came together for the transaction of business.

On motion, the Moderator appoints a committee of five to investigate the case relative to Elder Allen Fowler, consisting of Bros. J. J. Wade, B. A. Hodges, H. W. Jernigan, J. H. Pope and J. N. Gregory.

Elder Fowler accepts the committee.

On motion, said committee is empowered to investigate

the matter and release or condemn Elder Fowler, and their decision shall be final.

The case of Elder Willis is up for consideration.

On motion, a committee of three is appointed to look into the case of Elder Willis, consisting of Bros. J. W. Taylor, Jesse Wilson and W. J. Jernigan.

On motion, the decision of the committee shall be final.

Leave of absence is granted the committees for the remainder of the day.

After an intermission of ten minutes, Conference is again called to order by the Moderator.

On motion, the Moderator, by his request, is excused for the remainder of the day, and Elder J. F. Hill, the Assistant Moderator, presides.

Committee on Religious Exercise retire to get up a report.

Finance Committee retires to get up a report.

Religious Exercise Committee report to preach to-night, Elder Joseph Salmon; to-morrow at 11 o'clock, Rev. Lynn Adams, followed by Elder John Moore.

Temperance Committee not being prepared to report, report is deferred.

Committee on soliciting funds for monumental purposes not being present, report is deferred until to-morrow.

Report of S. S. Board is deferred.

Report of committee on Obituaries is deferred.

On motion, Conference adjourns till to-morrow 9 : 30 A. M.

Prayer by Elder J. E. Smith.

THIRD DAY.

SATURDAY, Nov. 7th, 1885.

Conference opened at 9 : 30 A. M. with religious exercise, conducted by Elder Lundee Lee.

Elder Hill is relieved from the chair, and Elder Johnson resumes his seat again as Moderator.

The names of J. E. Jolly, from Mt. Pleasant, and J. M. Wade, from Long Branch, are enrolled as delegates.

Roll is called and members present answer to their names, there being but two absentees.

Minutes of yesterday read and approved.

On motion, the report on Religious Exercise is recommitted, and a new report received. Committee report to

preach at the stand to-day at 11 o'clock, Elders Adams, Moore and Hill.

Report of Temperance committee is received and report adopted. (See Reports.)

Report of committee on soliciting funds for monumental purposes is received and adopted. (See Report.)

Bros. J. E. Jolly and J. H. Pope are granted leave of absence to get up report for S. S. Board.

In consequence of the absence of some of the S. S. Board no report is received.

The names of those absent at roll call are read, and fines of ten cents is collected from each of the absentees.

The committee on soliciting funds for monumental purposes over the grave of Elder Turnage is relieved, and Elder John Moore is elected to serve as committee.

On motion, the money that has already been collected for monumental purposes is paid to Elder Moore—$56.93 is paid over to Elder Moore.

Report of the Finance Committee is read.

It now being 11 o'clock, the congregation and those assigned to the stand retire for preaching.

On motion, the report of the Finance Committee is adopted and committee discharged. (See Report.)

On motion, the name of Bro. J. W. Lucas is enrolled as Licentiate.

On motion, the name of Bro. W. R. Glover is enrolled as Licentiate.

On motion, the name of Bro. Thomas J. Gregory is enrolled as Licentiate.

On motion, the name of Bro. R. C. Wallace is received and enrolled as ordained minister.

Verbal petitions for the next Conference are received.

On motion, the name of Bethsaida church is changed to that of Hodges' Chapel.

A vote is taken, and it is decided that the next Conference shall be held with the church at Hood Swamp, Wayne county, commencing on Thursday before the second Sunday in November, at 12 o'clock, A. D. 1886.

On motion, no delegate shall be recognized in the Conference who shall arrive after the second day, 12 o'clock M.

On motion, it is decided that any minister arriving in Conference after the second day 12 o'clock, shall pay fifty cents as fine.

On motion, any delegate arriving after the second day 12 o'clock, shall pay fifty cents as fine.

On motion, the Secretary is to have 500 copies of the proceedings of this Conference printed, and he is allowed ten ($10) dollars for his services in preparing and distributing the same.

On motion, the report of the committee in the case of Elder Fowler is received, and committee discharged. (See reports.)

On motion, the report of the committee in case of Elder Willis is received, and committee discharged. (See reports.)

Elder Hill withdraws his motion concerning the committee being discharged, and,

On motion, the committee is yet retained in case of Elder Willis.

On motion, Elder Lundee Lee is elected to preach the introductory sermon at the next annual Conference, and Elder R. A. Johnson his alternate.

After 35 minutes' intermission for dinner, the Conference come to order by the call of the Moderator.

A resolution is offered by Bro. H. W. Jernigan, and, on motion, is adopted. (See resolutions.)

On motion by H. W. Jernigan, this body elects a committee of five, who shall be known as "Missionary Board," and said committee shall have full control over the missionary work, and is required to report each year to the annual Conference.

The Missionary Board elected consists of Bros. Jesse Wilson, B. A. Hodges, J. P. Ogburn, J. D. Stevens and J. H. Pope.

On motion the Treasurer of this Conference pays to the Secretary all the fudns in hand. The Secretary receives from the Treasurer $35.33.

On motion, a vote of thanks is tendered the people of this vicinity for their kind reception and bounteous hospitality.

Committee on religious exercise report. Report is recommitted, and the committee report to preach to-morrow, at 11 o'clock, Elder R. A. Johnson.

Minutes of to-day are read and adopted.

On motion, that portion of the minutes requiring forfeiture of seats to the ministers and delegates is now stricken out of the minutes.

On motion, Conference adjourns, with remarks and devotional exercise conducted by Elder J. F. Hill.

ELDER R. A. JOHNSON, *Moderator.*

ALBERT W. GREGORY,
Secretary.

RESOLUTIONS AND REPORTS.

RESOLUTION BY H. W. JERNIGAN.

Resolved, That this Conference send out a Missionary to labor for religious interests in and out the bounds of said Conference.

REPORT OF COMMITTEE ON SOLICITING FUNDS.

We, the committee appointed to solicit funds for the purchase and erection of a suitable monument over the grave of our beloved brother, Elder James Turnage, desire to submit the following report:

We have collected the amounts annexed to our respective names: William Byrd, $6.50; R. A. Johnson, $50.43.

WILLIAM BYRD,
R. A. JOHNSON,
Committee.

REPORT OF FINANCE COMMITTEE.

We, the Finance Committee, submit the following report:

We find in the hands of the Treasurer

Minute funds of this year	$ 27 80
Balance of minute funds of last year	3 15
Fines collected this year	2 40
Total	$33 35

JESSE WILSON,
B. A. HODGES,
J. J. WADE,
Commtitee.

REPORT ON MINISTERIAL CHARACTER.

We, the committee appointed to report to this Conference, beg leave to submit the following:

That we find the ministers of said Conference are in good standing, except Elders Allen Fowler and A. H. Willis—the former having been walking disorderly, and the latter having deserted the Free-Will Baptist faith.

RANSOM WEST,
J. B. JERNIGAN,
N. H. LUCAS,
Committee.

REPORT IN CASE OF ELDER FOWLER.

We, the committee appointed in case of Elder A. Fowler, submit the following report:

That he be silenced from preaching for the next TWO years.

H. W. JERNIGAN,
J. H. POPE,
B. A. HODGES,
J. J. WADE,
J. N. GREGORY,
Committee.

REPORT IN CASE OF ELDER WILLIS.

We, the undersigned committee appointed to investigate the case of A. H. Willis, beg leave to submit the following report:

That we sustain the action of the church, and demand his credentials; also, we order the name of A. H. Willis erased from our minutes.

JESSE WILSON,
I. W. TAYLOR,
WM. J. JERNIGAN,
Committee.

REPORT ON TEMPERANCE.

We find the cause of temperance is gaining strength in our churches. We therefore respectfully ask all our ministers to abstain from and discountenance the use of all intoxicants; and we further recommend to the laity of all our churches to abstain from the use of spirituous liquors, and all their concomitants (unless ordered by a regular M. D). For many years the temperance cause has had great opposition, though now gradually making advancement, feeling its way into popular favor. Within the last few years by strenuous efforts, crowned with the blessings of God, it has assumed vast proportions—such proportions as are making its power felt, both in Church and State. Heretofore the temperance struggle has seemed to be one constant disencouragement, and it is but lately we have begun to see the fruits of our toil. We have been like Israel, wandering in the desert, but now we can see the promised land, and the question now is, Shall we go up and possess it? God grant that we may.

JOHN MOORE,
R. A. JOHNSON,
W. A. COLVILLE,
Committee.

ORDER OF BUSINESS FOR 1885.

1st. Introductory Sermon.
2nd. Names of those entitled to membership.
3rd. Organization.
4th. Call for Petitionary Letters.
5th. Hand of Fellowship given to visiting brethren.
6th. Appointment of Committees.
7th. Reports from Churches.
8th. Resolutions.
9th. Reports from Committees.
10th. Miscellaneous Business.
11th. Adjournment.

CONSTITUTION.

ARTICLE 1. This body shall be known as the Cape Fear Free-Will Baptist Conference.

ART. 2. The object of this Conference shall be to promote Christ's kingdom among men by means in strict conformity to the Holy Scriptures.

ART. 3. This Conference shall be composed of its own officers, of the ministers who are members of the churches belonging to the body of delegates from the churches, each church being entitled to three delegates, and one representative from each Board and Standing Committee.

ART. 4. The delegates from each church shall bear to the Conference a letter certifying their appointment, showing the condition and statistics of the church, and giving a statement of all funds raised during the year for denominational or other benevolent purposes.

ART. 5. The officers of this body shall be a Moderator, Treasurer, Corresponding and Recording Secretary, who shall remain in office until their successors are elected.

ART. 6. This Conference may, at each regular meeting, elect as many Boards or Standing Committees as may be necessary in carrying out its benevolent purposes. These shall keep a record of their proceedings and make a report at each regular meeting of this Conference.

ART. 7 Any church desiring to become a member of this body shall present her petition at a regular session of Conference through delegates appointed for that purpose. If she be received, the Moderator shall extend to her delegates the hand of fellowship.

ART. 8. The Conference may extend to visiting brethren all the privileges of the body save that of voting.

ART. 9. This Constitution may be amended at any regular session by a vote of four-fifths of the members present.

STATISTICAL REPORT FOR 1885.

CHURCHES.	COUNTIES.	PASTORS FOR 1885.	For Minutes.	Pastor's Support.	For Monument.	For Sunday Schools.	Members Received.	Baptized.	Excluded.	Dismissed.	Died.	Number of Members.	Increase.	Decrease.
Prospect	Harnett	Lundee Lee	$1 50	$20 50	$	$			7	2	2	105		11
Hodges' Chapel	Harnett	Fowler and Moore	1 50	16 00						3		108		3
Pleasant Grove	Harnett	Lundee Lee	1 00	19 20			10	9	1	1		97	9	
Long Branch	Cumberland	Lundee Lee	2 00	30 00			22	20			2	100	18	
Colyer's Chapel	Cumberland	William Byrd	1 00							1	3	63	4	
Shady Grove	Sampson	Lundee Lee	2 00	35 80		5 00	17	16	5		5	173	6	
Stony Run	Sampson	Lundee Lee	2 50	20 25		3 50	19	16		1	3	123	19	
New Hope	Johnston	Robert Strickland	1 25	2 45			5	5	2	1		38	3	
Johnston Union	Johnston	Rufus A. Johnson	1 55				2	1		10	1	74		9
St. Mary's Grove	Johnston	Robert Strickland	1 50				4	4	1	3		63	2	
Johnson's Chapel	Johnston	R. A. Johnson	2 00		2 60	2 35	9	6			1	76	8	
Union Springs	Johnston	John Moore	1 00								1	20		1
Mt. Pleasant	Wake	R. A. Johnson	2 00	38 45	2 25		14	10	1		1	61	10	
New Prospect	Wayne	J. F. Hill	1 45									28		
Hood Swamp	Wayne	J. F. Hill	3 00							2		44		2
Friendship	Wayne	J. F. Hill	1 50				5					14		
New Chapel	Johnston	R. A. Johnson	1 05				10	5		2	1	25	8	
Laurel's Chapel	Johnston	Not represented												
Piny Grove	Johnston	Not represented												
West's School House	Cumberland	Not represented												

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